

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/629,507	LINZER, ELLIOT N.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Shawn S. An	2613	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

### **Reasons for Allowance**

1. Claims 1-22 are allowed.

2. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

**Claims 1-7** recite novel features of a method for buffering a video signal, comprising the steps of:

a) storing a plurality of pictures decoded from said video signal having a first resolution in a memory space divided into a plurality of first buffers each having a first size;

b) dividing said memory space into a plurality of second buffers each having a second size in response to said pictures in said video signal changing to a second resolution; and

c) converting at least one unavailable buffer of said second buffers to an available condition by marking at least one unread picture of said pictures from said memory space as destroyed.

**Claims 8-11** recite novel features of a circuit comprising:

a memory defining a memory space divided into a plurality of first buffers each having a first size; and

a decoder configured to i) store a plurality of pictures decoded from a video signal having a first resolution in said memory space, ii) divide said memory space into a plurality of second buffers each having a second size in response to said pictures in said video signal changing to a second resolution, and iii) convert at least one unavailable buffer of said second buffers to an available condition by marking at least one unread picture of said pictures from said memory space as destroyed.

**Claims 12-18** recite novel features of a method for buffering a video signal, comprising the steps of:

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- a) storing a plurality of pictures decoded from said video signal having a first resolution in a memory space divided into a plurality of first buffers each having a first size;
- b) dividing said memory space into a plurality of second buffers each having a second size in response to said pictures in said video signal changing to a second resolution; and
- c) converting at least one unavailable buffer of said second buffers to an available condition by moving each unread picture of said pictures toward an end of said memory space.

**Claims 19-22** recite novel features of a circuit comprising:

a memory defining a memory space divided into a plurality of first buffers each having a first size; and

a decoder configured to i) store a plurality of pictures decoded from a video signal having a first resolution in said memory space, ii) divide said memory space into a plurality of second buffers each having a second size in response to said pictures in said video signal changing to a second resolution, and iii) convert at least one unavailable buffer of said second buffers to an available condition by moving each unread picture of said pictures toward an end of said memory space.

The prior art of records fail to anticipate or make obvious the novel features (emphasis added on underlined limitations) as discussed above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

A) Miller (6,633,608 B1), Method and apparatus for adapting memory resource utilization in an information stream decoder.

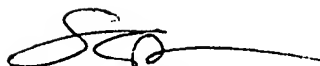
B) Auld (5,502,494), Management of channel buffer in video decoders

C) Gunji et al (5,731,838), Apparatus for decoding moving picture data.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to *Shawn S. An* whose telephone number is 571-272-7324.

5. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**SHAWN AN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

5/6/05